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REPRINTING ISSUES #1-9, PLUS NEW MATERIAL!





THE COLLECTED JACK KIRBY COLLECTOR, VOLUME ONE

A TWOMORROWS ADVERTISING PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE KIRBY ESTATE FOITED BY JOHN MORROW DESIGN & LAYOUT BY JOHN & PAMELA MORROW PROOFFEADING BY RICHARD HOWELL COVER COLOR BY TOM ZILIKO CONTRIBUTORS D. BRUCE BERRY AL BIGLEY MARK EVANIER DAVID HAMILTON LARRY HOUSTON RICHARD KOLKMAN JOHN LEWANDOWSKI BRET MIXON MARK PACELLA STEVE ROBERTSON MIKE ROYER GREG THEAKSTON SPECIAL THANKS TO MARK EVANIER RANDY HOPPE RICHARD HOWELL MARK PACELLA STEVE ROBERTSON GREG THEAKSTON MIKE THIBODEAUX TOM ZIUKO ALL THE WONDERFUL CONTRIBUTORS FROM TJKC ∮1-9 & OF COURSE ROZ KIRBY

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DEDICATED TO:

· My beautiful, charming, and wonderfully tolerant wife Pam. Without you, The Jack Kirby Collector and all of the other meaningful things in my life wouldn't mean a thing.

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Front cover inks: Mike Royer Cover color: Tom Ziuko

FANTASTIC FOUR #108: JACK'S WAY

hy John Morrow

antastic Four #108
has quite a history
behind it. It was
originally meant to be
#102, but supposedly
someone at Marvel felt it
wasn't dialogueable. So
Marvel ran the art for
#103 in #102, and put
this art on the shelf for a
few months. Then they
chopped Jack's originals
up, rearranged panels,



added some John Buscema filler art, changed the ending, sent the whole thing to Joe Sinnott to ink, and published it (not so coincidentally) the same month Jack's New Gods #1 came out at DC. The end result was a real mess that didn't make much sense.

But just how bad was Jack's original story? Judge for yourself. Presented here is our attempt to put the story back into its original form, using the Kirby art that didn't make the cut. Mitch Itkowitz came across many of the discarded pencils in the Marvel files a few years ago, and had them returned to Jack. A few panels are still missing (most notably the splash page), and you'll see those indicated by question marks. Since Jack's original story and the published version had major differences, we deleted the published dialogue and page numbers to avoid confusion. In quotes ("") accompanying the pencil panels are Jack's original margin notes for Stan Lee to dialogue by (these are numbered to coincide with the panel numbers). With just the few margin notes here to accompany Jack's powerful art, it's easy enough to get an idea of the

(continued on page 38)

A EVEN ANCIENTS PONDERED PROBLEM THAT STILL PLAGUES MAN TODAY. 2. "THIS RADIATION TEST WILL PROVE DATE CONCLUSIVELY." 3. "THE RAYS REACT." 4. "THIS INTENSITY METER PLACES STATUE AT 4001 BC." 5. "THAT FIERCE FACE-THANK GOODNESS WE'VE PROGRESSED TODAY." 6. (FROM FF #108, PAGE I. PANEL WAS CROPPED WHEN PUBLISHED.)

PAGES 3-7 (AS PUBLISHED IN FF #108, FAGES 2-6.)

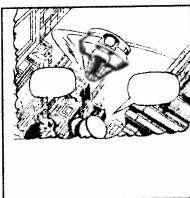


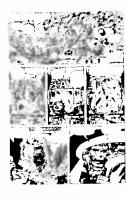




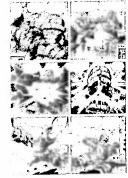


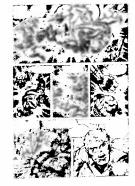


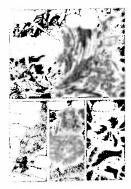


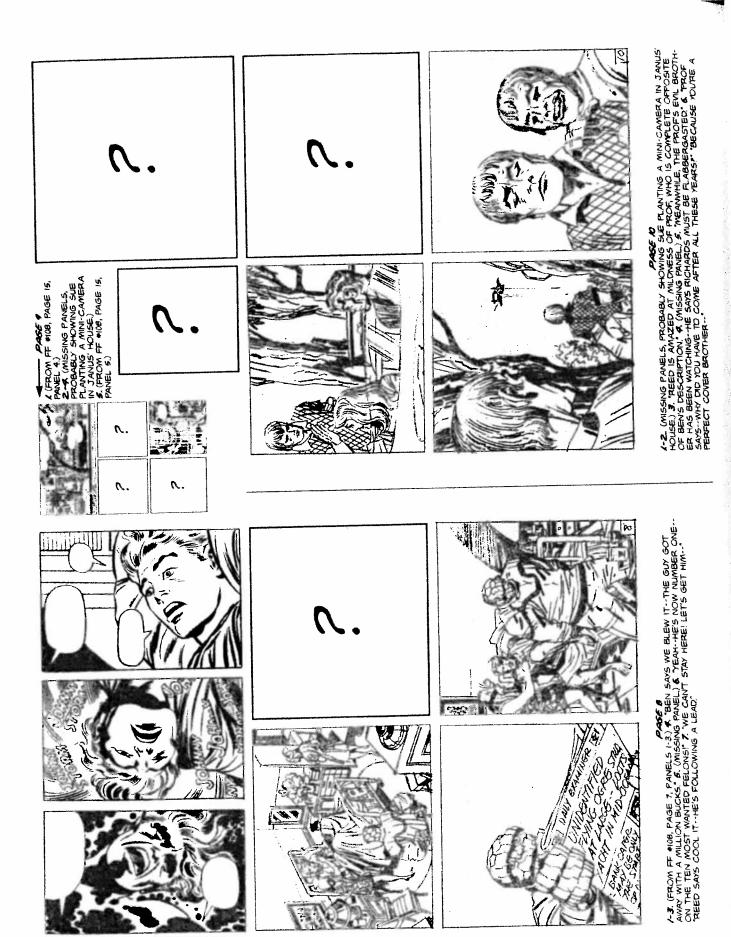


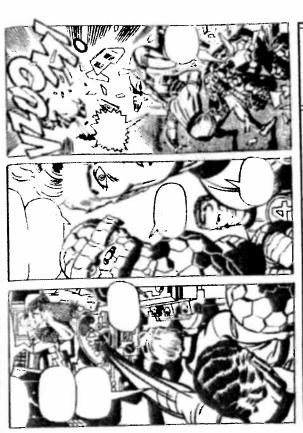




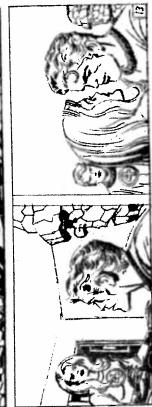












(THIS PAGE WOULD'VE BEEN SPLIT INTO TWO HALF PAGES, WITH ADS RUNNING UNDER THEM--A PRACTICE THAT GOT A 20-PAGE STORY OUT OF ONLY 19 PAGES OF ART.)

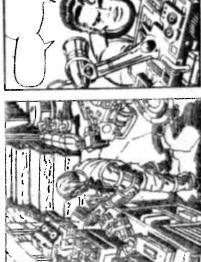
7.2. (FROM FF 8108, PAGE 9, PANEL 2 AND 3) 3, FROM FF \$108, PAGE 9, PANEL 6.)

4. (FROM FF 8108, PAGE 9, PANEL 1) 8, WHAT HAPPENED? "BEN SAYS-REED'S MINI-CAMERA BLEW UP IN OUR FACES--THAT'S WHAT!" 6, THAT WAS NO MALFUNCTION--THAT WAS MEGA-POWER LISTEN SUE--1 HAVE A NUTTY IDEA--.











A "YVE BEEN AWAY PERFECTING MEGA-POWER, NOW--I'LL GAIN MONEY, YOU WON'T TALK. THE TOWN WON'T TALK.—OR TIS CURTAINS! \$\frac{3}{3}, \text{STILD}\$, STIC TOWN WON'T TALK.—OR TIS CURTAINS! \$\frac{3}{3}, \text{STILD}\$, STIC TOWN FINE BUSY IN LAB, RICHARDS DIDN'T GO AWAY WITHOUT BUGGING THE HOW IN INSTRUMENTS TO TRACE HIS BUGS AND DESTROY THEM NOW LEAVE INDEX DON'T STOP HERE—'I'LL EMPTY THAT WHOLE CITY OF ITS MONE \$108, PAGE 7, PAWEL 6.)

(continued from puge 35) story he set out to Some of the tell originally.

cult task (apparently, he hatchet job went than once, making renumbered more reassembly a diffithing that helped later pages were through several revisions). One immensely in

PASSE M (AS PUBLISHED IN #108, PASE 10.) reassembling this

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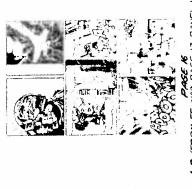
story was the fact that Jack worked on a grid. the right place on a given page.

a splash page to get the ball rolling), and maybe this confusion at the opening of the story is the that period, you can tell if panels were falling in duction on page 2 is unclear (especially without Negative Zone. And the villain Janus doesn't die two versions. Just what is going on in the introreason Marvel decided it was unusable. Unlike By simply following his standard FF grid from There were some major differences in the the published version of this story. Jack's version dealt with a force called Mega-Power, not Nega-Power, and had nothing to do with the in the end (a plot twist that I always thought

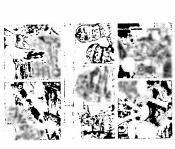
This story didn't break any new ground, seemed very un-Kirbylike).

page 2. These seemingly minor details make the earth touches like Reed and Sue's casual clothes FF seem like real people, and were a big part of but there are some really nice bits that got left and Sue taking baby Franklin from Crystal on is one of the reasons the FF has never reached The very lack of this type of storytelling detail the sense of family you felt reading the books. on page 2 and the Thing's sweater on page 8. on the Bullpen floor; those simple, down-tothe heights it attained while Jack was on it.

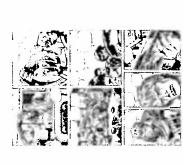
But rather than dwell on the negative, let's efforts on the FF, as he originally intended it to simply enjoy this look at one of Jack's final be seen. 4



4-2. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 13, PANEL 1-2. ORIGINALS WERE CROPPED) 3-7. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 19, PANEL 1-5.)

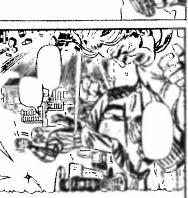


K-2 (FROM FF #108, PAGE 14, PANEL 6-7.)
3.-5. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 15, PANEL 1-3.)
6.-7. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 16, PANEL 3-4.)



1-2. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 16, PANEL 5-6.) 3-7. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 17, PANEL 1-5.)





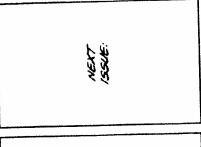


AAC (FROM FF #108, PAGE 11, PANEL 1-4.) S. (FROM FF #108, PAGE 12, PANEL 2.) S. "HE SEES PLANE!! CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT A PARTING SHOT--"

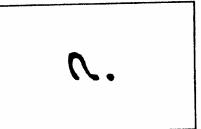












// (MARGIN NOTES HAVE BEEN ERASED) Z WHO CAN TELL WHAT MEGA-POWER CATORY TOWNT TRUST HIM GET HIM WHILE YOU CAN'TEL HANGE THE GOLL' (NOTE THE SCALLOPED CORNERS, INDICATING THIS WAS CONSIDERED FOR A FLASHBACK SCENE IN FF #108) ≯ (MARGIN NOTES HAME BEEN ERASED) ₹ -7 (MISSING PAINELS, SCENE IN FF #108) ≯ (MARGIN NOTES HAME BEEN ERASED) ₹ -7 (MISSING PAINELS)















K (FROM FF #108, PAGE 17, PANEL 6.) 2-37, (NO MARGIN NOTES VISIBLE.) 4. "SHE GRABS GUN BEFORE TWIN CAN REACH FOR 11." "REED SAYS-USE GUN TO COVER BAD TWIN, SLE", 5. "REED SAYS TO GOOD TWIN-YOU'RE A FOOL, YOU KNOW. THE CRIMINAL'S PATH IS NO SOLUTION", 6. (MARGIN NOTES ARE ERASED) 7. "REED TOUCHES GOOD TWIN'S FREET WITH TRIGGER." (THE PAGE NUMBER 19" HAS BEEN ERASEQ BUT 15 VISIBLE.)